

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, on the committee amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This bill does deal with the administration of the commercial drivers license. Very briefly, the committee amendment is a little separate issue, but right now we have, as part of our commercial drivers license, it's a federal requirement that we have to define a violation of what's called a serious traffic infraction. And right now we have, if it's in excess of 15 mile an hour over posted speed limit, that's a serious traffic infraction. That's consistent with what the federal law requires. The trouble is federal law looked at us, audited us and said, you didn't say "at or in excess of 15". So the committee amendment adds, basically, if you're 15 miles an hour or more is a serious traffic infraction for commercial drivers license purposes. It's a very small amendment but it's one that if we don't do, we're going to get dinged on, so I'd appreciate the adoption of the committee amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: There are no lights. Is there closing? Closing is waived. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record. By the way, I would announce, while we're recording, that there is an A bill associated with this that we will go to at the conclusion of this bill. It did not get printed on the agenda.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Kristensen, do you have an opening?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to open with this. The bill itself modifies the administration of the commercial drivers license system. The first thing it does is recognize the commercial drivers license issued by the Republic of Mexico. Currently, we recognize Canadian Provinces, and they are consistent. There's this whole pack together that it's good and, quite frankly, to give full recognition, this is something that's done up and down the country, and particularly with the advent of a lot of travel